

Mayor Nickels Awards \$680,000 IN NEIGHBORHOOD MATCHING FUNDS

22 Summer Youth Initiative Awards will go toward projects in the Central Area and Southeast

On June 12th, Mayor Greg Nickels announced the award of \$680,000 in Matching

Funds to 22 summer Youth Initiative projects and 27 Small and Simple projects across the city. The awards were presented at the Northwest African American Museum where groups gathered to celebrate their accomplishments and commitment to building their communities.

The Youth Initiative awards focused on teens in the Central District and

Rainier Beach communities, while the Small and Simple Awards touched on issues in the entire city, covering everything from public art, race and social justice, youth-development, and climate protection.

The event was attended by members of awarded community organizations, those interested in applying to the Neighborhood Matching Fund and city officials. Although Mayor Nickels was not able to attend, he expressed his sentiments about the awards and their impact on Seattle, saying, "These awards recognize our neighborhoods' commitment and creativity in tackling a wide range of challenges, and I'm especially



Councilwoman Sally Clark joins Neighborhood Matching Fund Youth Initiative Award Recipients.

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Save the date for Neighborhood Matching Fund 20th Anniversary events in your neighborhood. We'll keep you posted on what we're planning for each section of the city, along with our grand celebration on October 11, so stay tuned!

Aug 30 - Southwest

Sept 6 - West

Sept 13 - Northwest

Sept 20 - Northeast

Sept 27 - East

Oct 4 - Southeast

2008 Marks the 20th Anniversary of THE NEIGHBORHOOD MATCHING FUND

This month we profile a recent Matching Fund project
"It's time to remember the Aqua Theater at Green Lake"

The outdoor amphitheater, with its floating stage and orchestra pit, once featured 5,500-seat grandstands for performances such as water ballet, comic diving, Shakespearean plays and even a Grateful Dead concert. Today, only a small portion of these grandstands remain at the south end of Green Lake. They



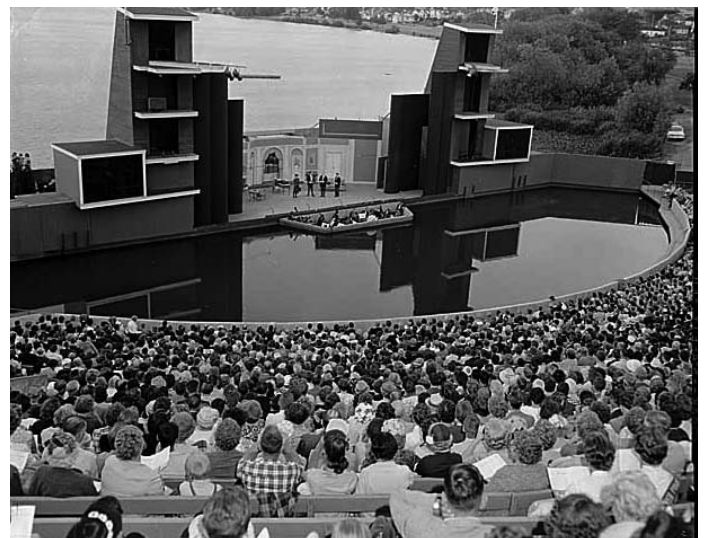
Historic photo of the Aqua Theater.

remind us of a historic community gathering place that former local columnist Jean Godden described as once providing "pulse-pounding entertainment." The Aqua Theater was constructed almost overnight for Seafair in 1950 and for many decades to follow provided a wide variety of entertainment. Seattle's outdoor aquatic amphitheater brought the neighbors out in a way we are not likely to see again.

As the local landscape changes with new development, a group called Friends of the Aqua Theater has formed to spearhead an effort to keep the Aqua Theater memory alive. We applied and received an award from the City of Seattle, Department of

Neighborhoods, to place signage at the site of the old theater. Many local individuals, groups and businesses such as The Seafair Committee, Ravenna Bloom and Lake & Co. Real Estate, have enthusiastically joined the effort with cash contributions, historical photos and newspaper articles as well as personal stories of a time gone by.

There are many ways in which one can contribute to the Aqua Theater project and the Friends of the Aqua Theater would like to invite the community to participate. Are you a former Aqua Darling? Do you have a particular story to tell about productions at the theater? Bob Hope, Olympic Divers, and even Jerry Garcia are just a handful of those who graced the stage of this historical amphitheater. Were you there, too? Stories, memorabilia, posters or photographs help keep history alive for the Green Lake pollywogs who are coming up in the hood (or moving in). If any of you long-timers have a thing or two



Rocking out back in the day.

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to tell us about the Green Lake Aqua Theater – this is your moment!

We will have a community input meeting on Wednesday, July 9th at 7 pm at the Phinney Neighborhood Association, in room 2, blue building, 6532 Phinney Ave. North, Seattle, WA. 98103. Please come and share your memories and ideas for the signage at the Aqua Theater with us. The Aqua Theater was a recent recipient of Neighborhood Matching Funds.

Friends of the Aqua Theater can be reached at friendsoftheaquaheater@yahoo.com or at 206.789.6026/206.547.5676. 🌐



HAPPENINGS

in your neighborhood

BALLARD

SHIP CANAL GETS A SCRUBBING

The annual Ship Canal clean up was held on May 31 operating from Fishermen's Terminal. Over 100 volunteers and over 50 boats spent the morning removing tons of debris from the waters of Salmon Bay and the Ship Canal between the Fremont Bridge and the Ballard Locks. In addition to planning support by Department of Neighborhoods, the annual event is co-sponsored by the Seattle Marine Business Coalitions, the Port of Seattle, Puget Soundkeepers Alliance and Seattle Public Utilities. As always, entertainment and a halibut BBQ followed the morning's event.

CENTRAL

OOZE TUBES DISTRIBUTED

Neighborhood Matching Fund staff utilized the Central Neighborhood Service Center to distribute Ooze Tubes to folks who participated in the 2007 Tree Fund program. With these sturdy green plastic bags wrapped at the base of newly planted trees, water can properly irrigate the root systems in a measured manner, protecting the trees from the dry conditions of summer, provided tree-loving caretakers refill the bags on a regular basis.

DELRIDGE

DELRIDGE DAY CELEBRATION

The annual Delridge Day Celebration was held this month at the Youngstown Cultural Arts Center, attended mostly by young artists, performers, and local neighborhood residents. Many participants are involved in arts and environmental programs offered at the cultural center. Younger children had an array of interactive activities to keep them busy throughout the day. An outdoor stage featured jazz, reggae, mariachi, and hip hop musical performances.

NEW TREES IN COTTAGE GROVE

City Arborist Nolan Rundquist has informed the North Delridge Neighborhood Council that they have finished planting 166 new street trees on portions of 25th, 26th, Alaska and Delridge Way. These trees were funded through the Bridging the Gap tax that voters approved in the fall of 2006. These trees will receive summer time watering by the City until they are established enough to survive on their own. The City will also be providing proper maintenance pruning. Community members have suggested additional tree planting locations in North Delridge for SW Genesee Street from Avalon to Longfellow Creek. These trees may be included in the City's fall planting schedule.

Happenings, continued on following page.

DOWNTOWN

PRECINCTS WORKING TO ADDRESS ISSUES IN LITTLE SAIGON/CHINATOWN/INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT

The Precinct Commanders of the East and West Precincts have convened a group of business owners, community activists, and residents to develop consensus on the most pressing issues of the neighborhoods. The Seattle Police shared with the community members that their input helps them direct resources in the area. The group is also working to establish a quick and effective communication network so word gets out quickly about police activity and response in the area.

EAST

SEATTLE PRIDE PARADES AND NEIGHBORHOOD MATCHING FUND SMALL SPARKS

For the third consecutive year DON staff encouraged the LGBT community on Capitol Hill and First Hill to participate in the Neighborhood Matching Fund Small Sparks Program. Small Sparks allows for individuals and small groups to obtain up to \$250 for building floats, costumes or banners. A record number of seven applications for Small Sparks were received from area LGBT organizations.

An article about the Department of Neighborhoods Small Sparks program appeared on the front page of the May 2 Seattle Gays News, featuring the opportunity to participate in the program as part of the City's efforts in building community.

CAPITOL HILL ART COMMUNITY PROPOSAL FOR SOUND TRANSIT BROADWAY SITE

Different art committees from neighborhood organizations such as the Capitol Hill Community Council, Chamber of Commerce, Capitol Hill Arts Center, etc, sent a letter to the Sound Transit Authority/Broadway Substation, proposing the temporary use of one of the empty properties along the Broadway Business District for an ongoing series of community arts events and galleries with programming to be organized by local artists and neighborhood organizations.

The idea from these groups is to assist Sound Transit in planning the artistic component of the substation while offering opportunities to the vast art community in the area.

Umoja Fest

COMING IN AUGUST!

A community tradition for over five decades, the annual African-American community celebration, Umoja Fest African American Heritage Festival & Parade will be held August 1-3, 2008 in Judkins Park in Seattle's historic central district.

The parade march, always a family favorite, will be held Saturday, August 2nd, 12pm - 2pm. The parade will travel south on 23rd avenue from Union street to Judkins Park. The parade will also feature floats, drill teams, dance troupes, community organizations and more.

An artistic and cultural extravaganza that uniquely touches the spirit of the community, the Umoja Fest has historically been a powerful unifying celebration. People of all ethnic backgrounds come together for culture, education, social festivities and networking. Event highlights include the African Heritage Parade, Children's Day & Activities, African Drum & Dance, Jazz, Soul, Reggae, Spoken Word & Poetry, Fashion Expo, Hip-Hop Helps

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Peace & Unity Concert, Gospel Fest, Basketball Tournament, Education Fair, Community Wellness Fair, Voter Registration, Bite of Africa, Vendor Marketplace & Community Resource Fair.

For schedule and information on how to participate in the parade, as a vendor or to volunteer, please visit www.umojafamilyfest.com or call 877.505.6306.

Umoja Family Fest African Heritage Festival & Parade is the oldest and largest African American community festival in the northwest. The event is the largest outreach project of the African American Heritage Museum & Cultural Center "Museum Without Walls" program.

"Umoja," the Swahili word which means "unity," is the main theme of the festival. Coordinated mostly by young adults, the Umoja Fest is a shining example of youth using their creative energy to build stronger and safer communities. 🌐

GREATER DUWAMISH

NEWS FROM BEACON HILL

As a follow-up to a Beacon Hill resident's walk around the neighborhood to identify streetlight outages, Councilmember Bruce Harrell contacted the community via email to let them know that all 24 street lights that were reported had been repaired. He was also the featured guest speaker at their monthly meeting.

EL CENTRO DE LA RAZA CINCO DE MAYO

The third annual El Centro de la Raza Cinco de Mayo Celebration was a huge success with over 400 attending the festivities. The event was moved to the Jefferson Park Community Center this year due to the overwhelming response over the past two years. The main venue, which was the gym, allowed room for more vendors, human services, and informational booths. The entertainment was also located in the gym, while food service sales occurred in the community room of the Center.

SEMI-TRUCKS AND THE PORT

Semi-truck parking discussions continue as Port, City, and Georgetown representatives met to begin the formation of a stakeholders group as Port Commissioner Gael Tarleton promised the community. Members will begin to do the outreach within the next month.

An update on the clean-up at Terminal 117 was given at the South Park Neighborhood Association. With that came the announcement that the Port has given the green light to integrate a natural habitat at that site once the clean-up is done. Planning and design will begin as the clean-up continues.

NORTH

BOEING EMPLOYEES' CREDIT UNION (BECU) HELPS OUT LAKE CITY FOODBANK AT A CRITICAL TIME

As part of Boeing Employee's Credit Union grand opening in Lake City, they have donated money to the North Helpline Emergency Services and Foodbank. The food bank has seen funding shortages this year, as well as increased usage, so the donation is timely. The North Helpline is based in Lake City, but also serves the surrounding communities in North Seattle.

Happenings, continued on following page.

NORTH DISTRICT FORMS A SIDEWALKS SUB-COMMITTEE

Bound together by common concerns about pedestrian safety in the north end, members of community councils in the North District Council formed a sub-committee called Safe Walks. Renee Staton, who is active in the Pinehurst neighborhood, chairs the group. Recently, they spoke at a community budget meeting in Ballard. They also plan meetings with members of City Council to make their plans known.

NORTHEAST

NIKKEI STUDENTS RECEIVE HONORARY DEGREES FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

On Sunday, May 18, the University of Washington awarded honorary Bachelors Degrees to over 100 Japanese American students and representatives of students whose college careers were cut short by the racist action of the federal government in 1942. The incarceration of over 120,000 Americans of Japanese descent in 1942, forced 449 students to leave the University of Washington and spend the next 3 - 4 years in "camps". In the winter of 2008, the University of Washington Board of Regents voted to award degrees to those students who were forced to leave. The ceremony on May 18 was humbling, heartfelt and powerful. Presiding over the ceremony was University of Washington President, Mark Emmert and the keynote address was given by former Secretary of Transportation, Norm Mineta.

COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING STUDENT WORKING ON DUMPSTER FREE ALLEYS

During spring quarter, Greg Johnson, a freshman in the Community and Environmental Planning introductory class, has worked with the Northeast District Coordinator on the Dumpster-Free Alley project. With the signing of new contracts for garbage service in the city, the U District is hoping the alleys on either side of the Ave will become dumpster-free. The alleys have become garbage strewn hideouts for many kinds of illegal activities. The Ave Group, looking at the District with its limited "green and open" spaces, is hoping that these alleys could become well-traveled, urban trails with inviting features (window boxes, murals, etc.). Johnson and the Coordinator have been conducting a door-to-door campaign to talk with business owners, to introduce them to the idea of dumpster-free service and let them know a new company will begin providing service (dumpster free or not) beginning next year.

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proud of the city's efforts to engage youth in Rainier Beach and the Central District, creating doors of opportunity for our children. These projects will truly make a difference in people's lives."

Taking a particular focus on the Youth Initiative Councilmember Sally Clark stated, "Believing in our future means believing in our youth and giving them opportunities to succeed. By supporting these organizations we're helping to provide the programs that give kids in the Central District and Rainier Beach skills to succeed in life." The Youth Initiative can be viewed as giving us a promising look into who the future leaders of Seattle will be.

Four times a year, Small and Simple Project Fund Awards are given to groups committed to building a better community. The funding is matched by locally raised money, donated materials, and volunteer labor. Youth Initiative projects will match the city's \$370,921 with \$286,479. Small and Simple awardees will match the city's \$312,868 contribution with resources valued at \$351,148.

"This funding cycle has so many exciting and inspirational projects that highlight the energy that community members have, and how much they care for their neighborhoods. I encourage everyone to take a look at these project descriptions and think about how we can partner on more projects that make a difference. We continue to prove that we are a city of neighborhoods," said Stella Chao, the Department of Neighborhoods director.

Happenings, continued on following page.

Neighborhood News



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NORTHWEST

LOCAL KIDS HELP REDESIGN SEATTLE CENTER

Fourth and fifth grade students from Greenwood Elementary School recently participated in the Seattle Center site redesign exercise promoted by the Seattle Times. According to the PTA newsletter, students were enthusiastic participants and came up with some great new ideas including "a giant maze, a water park, a natural history museum, various outdoor parks and the amazing Space Needle 2 which is connected by a sky bridge to the original Space Needle." The students were led in the process by an architect parent, along with the school's Artist in Residence. The next step is for the students to build models of their designs.

SOUTHEAST

SOUTHEAST OPEN HOUSE

Over 150 people attended the Southeast Open House on May 31. The Open House presented information in four areas: 1) Youth - preparing young people for a productive and hopeful future; 2) Safe Communities - making Southeast Seattle a safe place to live and work; 3) Thriving Communities - building healthy and walkable communities around the light rail stations; and 4) Transportation - making sure the light rail, bus, car, bicycle and pedestrian traffic all support those living and working in Southeast Seattle.

SOUTHWEST

FIRST ANNUAL SUSTAINABLE WEST SEATTLE FESTIVAL HELD

The first annual Sustainable West Seattle (SWS) Festival was a huge success with over 50 organizations taking part in the event. In addition to the scores of booths touting environmental stewardship and practices, a variety of speakers took to the main stage to speak on a host of topics that included buying and investing locally, publicly financed campaigns, The Duwamish Long House, and citizen activism. The festival took place on May 4, from 10am-4pm, in the parking lot of the West Seattle Junction Wells Fargo Bank.

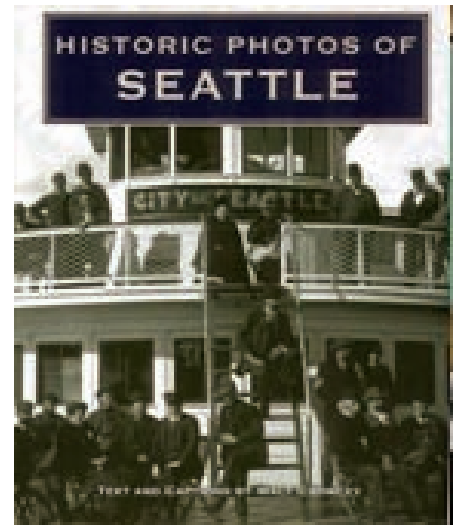
Local Book Review

"Historic Photos of Seattle," text and captions by Walt Crowley, is a black and white tour of the past, compiled by one of Seattle's greatest chroniclers and historians. These photos cover over two centuries of Seattle growth, strife, heartache and renewal. There is something for everyone in this lovingly rendered collection of photos, and was one of Walt's last projects before his death last year.

Having once worked for what would eventually become our Department of Neighborhoods, Walt always had a deep appreciation for what people can do for a neighborhood when they get together with a great idea. The seeds of Seattle's communities are all here: neighborhood markets and gardening, leisure time at the water, parades, and local transportation construction.

The historic sweep of this collection is impressive: it starts at the beginning of Seattle's story in 1851, and concludes with dramatic photos of Seafair, the World's Fair, and rollouts of Boeing jets in the early 1960s.

In each era, we see not just the changing face of our downtown through brick and steel, but commerce and activity in our neighborhoods, and how people lived in another time. Walt loved Seattle for its community vitality and deep sense of history. Anyone who feels just a fraction of the same way about either has to have this book on their coffee table.



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